

Amendments to the Claims

## Claims 1-9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (New): A method for making a chew toy comprising:  
shelling the kernels of corn from a corn cob;  
soaking the shelled corn cob for at least one hour in an aqueous saturated salt solution without  
breaking the corn cob into pieces whereby the corn cob is infused and impregnated with  
the salt of the salt solution;  
allowing the shelled corn cob to dry in the air after the soaking step;  
feeding the shelled corn cob infused and impregnated with the salt of the salt solution to a rodent,  
whereby the rodent is attracted to the salt taste of the corn cob and chews on the corn cob;  
using the corn cob to wear down the rodent's teeth while the rodent chews on the corn cob.

Claim 11 (New): The method according to claim 10 and further comprising soaking the  
shelled corn cob in a room temperature ethanol solution saturated with salt and drying the corn  
cob in a convection oven at 50 degrees C.

Claim 12 (New): The method according to claim 11 and further comprising soaking the  
shelled corn cob in a solution further containing folic acid, whereby the dried corn cob becomes  
impregnated with both the salt and folic acid.

Claim 13 (New): A method for making a chew toy comprising:

shelling the kernels of corn off of a corn cob, the corn cob having a plurality of air pockets therein;

immersing the shelled corn cob in an unbroken or ground state in an aqueous saturated salt solution at room temperature;

pulling a vacuum over the shelled corn cob and the solution such that the air pockets inside the shelled corn cob are filled with the aqueous saturated salt solution;

releasing the vacuum after the aqueous saturated salt solution has penetrated the shelled corn cob;

drying the shelled corn cob in an oven;

feeding the shelled corn cob infused and impregnated with the salt from the salt solution to a rodent, the rodent being attracted to the salt taste of the shelled corn cob and chewing on the shelled corn cob;

using the shelled corn cob to wear down the rodent's teeth while the rodent chews on the shelled corn cob.

Claim 14 (New): A method for making a chew toy comprising:

taking a corn cob with kernels of corn on it;

breaking the corn cob into no more than 4 equal shorter lengths;

soaking the corn cob with the kernels of corn on it for one hour in a hot aqueous salt solution whereby the corn cob becomes infused and impregnated with the salt within the salt solution;

drying the corn cob with the kernels of corn on it;

feeding the corn cob infused and impregnated with the salt from the salt solution to a rodent  
which is attracted to the salt taste of the corn cob whereby the rodent chews on the corn  
cob;  
using the corn cob to wear down the rodent's teeth while the rodent chews on the corn cob.